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TELEGRAM

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ACTION: IO-15

INFO: OCT-01 EUR-20 NEA-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
INR-08 L-04 NSAE-00 NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 P-01 SS-20
USIA-12 CU-05 SY-03 USSS-00 JUS-02 RSR-01 7126 W

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TO: SECSTATE: WASHDC: 4676
INFO: AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

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RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE

TS AUTH. REASON(S)

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐

DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☒

RELEASE DENIED ☐

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

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SUBJ: DISRUPTION OF SOV VIOLINIST'S CONCERT

1. JAN. 23: CARNEGIE HALL APPEARANCE OF SOV VIOLINIST LEONID KOGAN WAS DISRUPTED DURING INITIAL NUMBER WHEN AMMONIA DEVICE, NON-EXPLOSIVE, CONSISTING OF FLUID IN PLASTIC CONTAINER WAS RELEASED IN AREA OF SEAT NO. 101, DRESS CIRCLE, FIRST BALCONY. SAID DEVICE EMITTED NOXIOUS ODOR CAUSING IRRITATION TO EYES AND NECESSITATING EVACUATION OF AREA. APPROXIMATELY SEVENTY-FIVE PEOPLE HAD TO BE RELOCATED TO OTHER PARTS OF HALL. AT TIME DEVICE WAS RELEASED AN INDIVIDUAL KNOWN TO DETECTIVE OF NEW YORK POLICE DEPT AS MEMBER OF JEWISH DEFENSE LEAGUE, NAME OF "PETER", MALE, WHITE, TWENTY YEARS OF AGE, 5'9" TALL, WEARING HORN-RIMMED GLASSES, WAS SEEN TO LEAVE SEAT NO. 101 AND EXIT FROM HALL. SUBSEQUENTLY, WITHIN INTERMISSION PERIOD, THREE SIMILAR DEVICES WERE FOUND IN HALL, ONE IN 4TH FLOOR MEN'S ROOM, ONE IN SECOND FLOOR BALCONY, AND TWO IN ORCHESTRA. DEVICES WERE IN PLASTIC CONTAINERS, SIMILAR TO TUBE OF TOOTHPASTE, ALL IN GLASS VIALS. THESE WERE FOUND BEFORE THEY WERE ACTIVATED AND REMOVED BY BOMB SQUAD AFTER THEY HAD BEEN ISOLATED OUTSIDE 56TH ST ENTRANCE TO HALL. PERFORMANCE WAS NOT INTERRUPTED AND CONTINUED WITHOUT FURTHER INCIDENT. NO ARRESTS MADE AND NONE FORESEEN.

2. NO DEMONSTRATORS OUTSIDE CARNEGIE HALL. ONE SGT AND TEN PATROLMEN ASSIGNED TO AREA.

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3. SOV MISSION MADE EFFORT TO INVITE TOP RANKING UN AMBASSADORS AND UN SECRETARIAT PERSONNEL TO CONCERT, WHICH CAUSED CHIEF OF UN SECURITY TO COMMENT TO MISOFF THAT EFFORT WAS BEING MADE TO GATHER WITNESSES IN SUPPORT OF FUTURE SOV COMPLAINT RE DISRUPTION OF CONCERT.
YOST

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